

## Amendments To Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for generating a pixel-oriented graph, comprising:

determining a visual boundary for representing an aggregate of a set of values of a variable depicted in the pixel-oriented graph;

constructing a set of pixel blocks that represent the values such that the pixel blocks are visually distinguished by the visual boundary, each pixel block having a set of pixels and each pixel having a pixel value that visually represents one of the values of the variable.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein determining a visual boundary includes obtaining a selection of the aggregate from a user.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein determining a visual boundary comprises determining a location for a line in the pixel-oriented graph in response to the aggregate.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein determining a visual boundary comprises determining a location for an area in the pixel-oriented graph in response to the aggregate.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein determining a location for an area comprises determining a location for a rectangle.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein determining a location for an area comprises determining a location for a circle.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein determining a visual boundary comprises determining a location for a curve in the pixel-oriented graph in response to the aggregate.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein constructing a set of pixel blocks comprises determining a set of pixel blocks to be positioned above the visual boundary and a set of pixel blocks to be positioned below the visual boundary.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising filling in one or more gaps in the pixel blocks by replicating one or more pixels in the pixel blocks.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein determining a visual boundary comprises obtaining a user selection of the visual boundary.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising coloring the visual boundary.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising applying a weight to the visual boundary that indicates a relative importance of the aggregate.

13. (Currently Amended) A data analysis system, comprising:

data store for holding a set of values of a variable;  
display for providing a pixel-oriented graph that  
represents the values;

graph generator that obtains the values from the data  
store and that determines a visual boundary for representing  
an aggregate of the values and that constructs a set of pixel  
blocks that represent the values such that the pixel blocks  
are visually distinguished by the visual boundary, each pixel  
block having a set of pixels and each pixel having a pixel  
value that visually represents one of the values of the  
variable.

14. (Original) The data analysis system of claim 13, wherein  
the graph generator obtains a selection of the aggregate from  
a user.

15. (Original) The data analysis system of claim 13, wherein  
the graph generator constructs the pixel blocks by determining  
a set of pixel blocks to be positioned above the visual  
boundary and a set of pixel blocks to be positioned below the  
visual boundary.

16. (Original) The data analysis system of claim 13, wherein  
the graph generator fills in one or more gaps in the pixel  
blocks by replicating one or more pixels in the pixel blocks.

17. (Original) The data analysis system of claim 13, wherein  
the graph generator obtains a selection of the visual boundary  
from a user.

18. (Original) The data analysis system of claim 13, wherein

the graph generator colors the visual boundary.

19. (Original) The data analysis system of claim 13, wherein the graph generator applies a weight to the visual boundary that indicates a relative importance of the aggregate.

20. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium that contains a computer program that when executed generates a pixel-oriented graph by determining a visual boundary for representing an aggregate of a set of values of a variable depicted in the pixel-oriented graph and constructing a set of pixel blocks that represent the values such that the pixel blocks are visually distinguished by the visual boundary, each pixel block having a set of pixels and each pixel having a pixel value that visually represents one of the values of the variable.

21. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 20, wherein determining a visual boundary includes obtaining a selection of the aggregate from a user.

22. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 20, wherein constructing a set of pixel blocks comprises determining a set of pixel blocks to be positioned above the visual boundary and a set of pixel blocks to be positioned below the visual boundary.

23. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 20, further comprising filling in one or more gaps in the pixel blocks by replicating one or more pixels in the pixel blocks.

24. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 20, further comprising coloring the visual boundary.

25. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 20, further comprising applying a weight to the visual boundary that indicates a relative importance of the aggregate.